

Community Development

2025 NE Kresky Avenue Chehalis WA 98532

March 22, 2018

Theresa Carroll, Permitting Director Skookumchuck Wind Energy Project, LLC 11101 W. 120th Avenue, Suite 400 Broomfield, CO 80021

RE: SEP18-0002 Request for additional information

Dear Ms. Carroll:

The Lewis County Department of Community Development review of the application materials for the Skookumchuck Wind Energy Project, LLC is moving forward well. We are looking forward to determining the application complete in the very near future. However, before the county can proceed with issuing that notice, we need the following items listed below to fully evaluate the checklist:

Background Information

Item 8 lists the following studies already completed for the project (located on pages 2 and 3 of the SEPA checklist). Please submit them for our review:

- Marbled Murrelet Radar Study (2015)
- Skookumchuck Site Characterization Habitat Study (2011)
- Baseline Avian Activity Surveys (2015)
- An Acoustic Study of Bat Activity at the Proposed Skookumchuck Wind Energy Project, Washington (2016)
- Geotechnical Engineering Report (2017)
- Phase I Cultural Resources Inventory Report (2016)
- Noise Impact Assessment Technical Memorandum (2017).

In addition, the checklist states that the project is preparing studies on wetlands, traffic impact analysis, and visual resources simulations and analysis. Please update us on the current status of these studies and when you expect their completion.

B. <u>Environmental Elements</u>

Item 1 Earth subsection (d) on the SEPA checklist, states that there is a history of landslides "along portions of access road locations and adjacent to WTG locations S21 through S26, Substation SS1 and Laydown/ Batch Plant Option 3" (page 12 of the SEPA checklist). Please amend your Project Overview sheets to show the location of these geologically hazardous areas.

In addition, Item 1 Earth subsection (h) states that "A hazards assessment and geotechnical boring will be completed for proposed locations prior to foundation design" (page 12 of the SEPA checklist). Please add to the Project Overview sheets potential alternative locations for project infrastructure if studies demonstrate a need to accommodate geologic hazards within the project area, and clarify in this subsection the concept of micrositing corridors.

Item 14 Transportation does not provide specific information regarding the route and method for delivering project infrastructure to the site. Attachment A to the checklist describes potential Regional Haul Routes (pages 11 and 12). The checklist states "Because certain components are very long, temporary modifications to roadside areas, and potentially shoulders may be required to allow passage of such loads."

Please provide more descriptive detail regarding the potential impacts to road shoulders and how the project intends to mitigate them. Furthermore, because SEPA requires examination of the project in its entirety during threshold review, more definitive information on the route is necessary. This allows the county to identify other governmental agencies who have jurisdictional interest in the project to comment during environmental review.

The county appreciates the immense work necessary to complete a project of this magnitude within the construction timeframe discussed in the application. Please submit the information requested in this letter as quickly as possible so we can continue our review in timely manner for your project.

If you have any questions regarding the county's request for additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me at your convenience.

Sincerely,

Karen Witherspoon, AICP Senior Project Planner